

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of assigning a plurality of threads to a plurality of processors, each of the threads being a unit of execution of a real-time operation, the method comprising:

selecting a tightly coupled thread group from among the threads based on coupling attribute information indicative of a coupling attribute between the threads, the tightly coupled thread group including a set of tightly coupled threads running in cooperation with each other; and

reserving execution terms of the tightly coupled threads in several processors of the plurality of the processors, the reserved execution terms having the same execution start timing and the same term, the several processors being equal in number to the tightly coupled threads; and ~~performing a scheduling operation of dispatching the tightly coupled threads to several of the processors that are equal in number to the tightly coupled threads to simultaneously execute the tightly coupled threads by the several of the processors~~
simultaneously executing the tightly coupled threads in reserved execution terms by the several processors.

Claim 2 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of processors includes a local memory, and the method further comprises mapping the local memory of one of the several of the processors, which executes one of the tightly coupled threads, in part of an effective address space of other one of the tightly coupled threads executed by other one of the several of the processors.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein each of the tightly coupled threads has context information indicating contents of a register and a local memory of one of the several of the processors.

Claim 5 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of processors are electrically connected to a shared memory,

the method further comprises selecting a loosely coupled thread group from among the threads based on the coupling attribute information, the loosely coupled thread group including a set of loosely coupled threads communicating through a buffer on the shared memory, and

performing the scheduling operation includes dispatching the loosely coupled threads to one or more of the processors in accordance with a relationship in input and output between the loosely coupled threads.

Claim 6 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the scheduling operation is performed by an operating system executed by one of said plurality of processors.

Claims 7-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A real-time processing system that executes a plurality of threads, each of the threads being a unit of execution of a real-time operation, comprising:

a plurality of processors;

a selecting section configured to select ~~means for selecting~~ a tightly coupled thread group from among the threads based on coupling attribute information indicative of a coupling attribute between the threads, the tightly coupled thread group including a set of tightly coupled threads running in cooperation with each other; and

a reserving section configured to reserve execution terms of the tightly coupled threads in several processors of the plurality of the processors, the reserved execution terms having the same execution start timing and the same term, the several processors being equal in number to the tightly coupled threads; and ~~means for performing a scheduling operation of dispatching the tightly coupled threads to several of the processors that are equal in number to the tightly coupled threads to simultaneously execute the tightly coupled threads by the several of the processors~~

an executing section configured to simultaneously execute the tightly coupled threads in reserved execution terms by the several processors.

Claim 10 (Original): The real-time processing system according to claim 9, wherein each of said plurality of processors includes a local memory, and the system further comprises means for mapping the local memory of one of the several of the processors, which execute one of the tightly coupled threads, in part of an effective address space of other one of the tightly coupled threads executed by other one of the several of the processors.

Claim 11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The real-time processing system according to claim 9, wherein said plurality of processors are electrically connected to a shared memory,

the system further comprises means for selecting a loosely coupled thread group from among the threads based on the coupling attribute information, the loosely coupled thread group including a set of loosely coupled threads communicating through a buffer on the shared memory, and ~~the means for performing the scheduling operation includes~~ means for dispatching the loosely coupled threads to one or more of the processors in accordance with a relationship in input and output between the loosely coupled threads.

Claims 13-14 (Canceled).

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): ~~A program which is stored in a computer readable media and causes a computer including~~ A computer readable storage medium including computer executable instructions, wherein the instructions, when executed by a plurality of processors, perform a scheduling operation to assign a plurality of threads to the processors, wherein each of the threads being a unit of execution of a real-time operation, the program method comprising:

causing the computer to select a tightly coupled thread group from among the threads based on coupling attribute information indicative of a coupling attribute between the threads, the tightly coupled thread group including a set of tightly coupled threads running in cooperation with each other; and

~~causing the computer to dispatch the tightly coupled threads to several of the processors that are equal in number to the tightly coupled threads to simultaneously execute the tightly coupled threads by the several of the processors~~

reserving execution terms of the tightly coupled threads in several processors of the plurality of the processors, the reserved execution terms having the same execution start

timing and the same term, the several processors being equal in number to the tightly coupled threads; and

simultaneously executing the tightly coupled threads in reserved execution terms by the several processors.

Claim 16 (Original): The program according to claim 15, wherein each of said plurality of processors includes a local memory, and the program further comprises causing the computer to map the local memory of one of the several of processors that execute one of the tightly coupled threads, in part of an effective address space of other one of the tightly coupled threads executed by other one of the several of the processors.